



INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF
Plandome Heights

37 Orchard Street, Manhasset, New York 11030
Tel: (516) 627-1136 Fax: (516) 627 1393
www.plandomeheights-ny.gov

Kenneth C. Riscica
Mayor

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Mary Hauck
Kristina Lobosco
Florence Musalo
Gus Panopoulos
Norman Taylor
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June 3, 2022

Residents:

I write to celebrate that our paving is finally done and to thank you for your patience in the months of disruption to get us to this point. And in Bournedales, thanks for your patience in waiting so long for our grants to mature.

As I told you (December 15, 2021 and again March 31, 2022) we *fought for and received* more grant money than we expected and our costs were lower than our competitive bids because we “piggy-backed” on the Town contract for paving. With more money and less cost, we *did more work*. Further, I believe that our fiscal year (May 31) will end in surplus. In the end, once we close the books, pay all the bills and collect all the grants, I believe the reserve fund situation I outlined in my July 21, 2021 Report will be intact or stronger.

This situation creates an extraordinary opportunity for the Village that comes from *years of best practices in finance* and careful, *dogged work on grants and costs* and represents a *tremendous opportunity*. This opportunity requires careful analysis and thoughtful judgment about our future and it requires *adherence to best practices*. And that means that as the picture clarifies over the next weeks and months we will be examining:

- The needs of a new 10-year Capital Plan now that our existing plan is complete,
- The future needs of the Village for digital records, both for archival integrity as well as future constituent use,
- Occupancy issues including lease vs. buy and existing and potential space.

There's more, but these are the top 3. The maintenance of reserve funds is an important matter and I want you to know that we are working on it.

So as the work wraps up, the bills get paid and grants get collected and the books get closed over the next weeks and months, we will be addressing these long-term issues. And our goals haven't changed; we “Plan Beyond One Year” in order to have *low and stable taxes* and a *strong balance sheet* and we follow “*best practices*.” I look forward to communicating our progress and seeking your input, which will be “cheerfully received”.

Sincerely,
Incorporated Village of Plandome Heights

Kenneth C. Riscica
Mayor